

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification by inserting the following paragraph immediately before the paragraph found on page 10, line 26 (i.e., immediately before the line that begins “The present invention further extends to an isolated....”):

In certain embodiments the invention provides an allergen hybrid protein having reduced allergenicity but retaining immunogenicity, comprising a peptide epitope sequence of an allergen protein and a scaffold protein that is structurally homologous to the allergen protein, wherein the hybrid protein has a native conformation and the peptide epitope sequence is present in a surface accessible region of the hybrid protein corresponding to its position in the allergen protein. In certain embodiments the peptide epitope sequence is about 6 to about 55 amino acids in length, about 6 to about 45 amino acids in length, about 6 to about 35 amino acids in length, about 6 to about 25 amino acids in length, or about 6 to about 15 amino acids in length.